

Sierra College

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE

AP 5020

Nonresident Tuition

Date Adopted: 12/12/2025

Date Revised:

Date Reviewed:

References: Education Code Sections 68075.65, 68130.5 and 76140 et seq.;
Title 5 Section 54045.5

- Exemptions, including:
 - Any students, other than persons excluded from the term “immigrant” for purposes of the federal Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S. Code Section 1101(a)(15)), who meet the following requirements:
 1. either high school attendance in California for three or more years OR attainment of credits earned in California from a California high school equivalent to three or more years of full-time high school coursework and a total of three or more years of attendance in California elementary schools, California secondary schools, or combination of those schools;
 2. graduation from a California high school or attainment of the equivalent thereof;
 3. registration or enrollment in a course offered for any term commencing on or after January 1, 2002;
 4. filing a California Nonresident Tuition Exemption Request form with the District or in the case of students applying for state-based financial aid, by filing a California Dream Act Application (CADAA) with the California Student Aid Commission verifying eligibility for this nonresident tuition exemption; and
 5. in the case of undocumented persons, the filing of an affidavit that the student has filed an application to legalize their immigration status or will file an application as soon as he/she/they is eligible to do so.
 - Any students who meet the following requirements:
 1. demonstrates financial need;
 2. has a parent who has been deported or was permitted to depart voluntarily;
 3. moved abroad as a result of that deportation or voluntary departure;
 4. lived in California immediately before moving abroad;

5. attended a public or private secondary school in the State for three or more years; and
 6. Upon enrollment, will be in their first academic year as a matriculated student in California public higher education, will be living in California, and will file an affidavit with the District stating that he/she/they intends to establish residency in California as soon as possible.
- Any persons granted “T” or “U” visa status under 8 U.S. Code Section 1101(a)(15)(T)(i) or (ii), or section 1101(a)(15)U(i) or (ii), respectively, who meet the following requirements:
 1. high school attendance in California for three or more years;
 2. graduation from a California high school or attainment of the equivalent thereof;
 3. registration or enrollment in a course offered for any term or commencing on or after January 1, 2002; and
 4. filing a California Nonresident Tuition Exemption Request form with the District or in the case of students applying for state-based financial aid, by filing a California Dream Act Application (CADAA) with the California Student Aid Commission verifying eligibility for this nonresident tuition exemption.
 - A special part-time student, other than a person excluded from the term “immigrant” for purposes of the federal Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S. Code Section 1101(15)(a)), participating in a College and Career Access Pathways (CCAP) partnership program and enrolled in no more than 15 units per term.
 - A nonresident student who enrolls in a credit English as a Second Language course at the District and who is any of the following:
 - A recent immigrant, as defined in 8 U.S. Code Section 1101(a)(15);
 - A recent refugee, as defined in 8 U.S. Code Section 1101(a)(42); or
 - A person who has been granted asylum by the United States, as defined in 8 U.S. Code Section 1158.
 - This exemption applies only to individuals who, upon entering the United States, settled in California and who have resided in California for less than one year. This exemption applies only to the tuition fee for credit ESL courses.
- A requirement that the nonresident tuition fee be set not later than March 1 of each year.
 - A requirement that the calculation reflect the current expense of education calculated according to the Budget and Accounting Manual.
 - Exemptions, if any, due to reciprocity with bordering states.
 - Processing fees, if any, for international students.
 - A requirement that the calculation include the expense of education in the preceding fiscal year.
 - A requirement that the calculation reflect fees in contiguous Districts.

- A requirement that the calculation provide for students enrolled in more or less than 15 units per term.
- A requirement that a notice listing persons exempt from paying nonresident tuition be posted on the District's website.

See Board Policy 5020